

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 20, 2009

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 4

Introduced by Senators Correa and Alquist

(Coauthors: Senators DeSaulnier and Maldonado)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Beall, Galgiani, Huffman, Portantino,
Salas, Smyth, and Torres)

March 23, 2009

Senate Joint Resolution No. 4—Relative to Alzheimer’s disease.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SJR 4, as amended, Correa. Alzheimer’s Silver Alert program.

This measure would urge the President and *the* Congress of the United States to act to establish a federally controlled Alzheimer’s Silver Alert program to locate missing persons with dementia and establish a federal grant program to aid states in establishing local Silver Alert programs.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, At least ~~5.2 million~~ 5,200,000 Americans suffer
2 from Alzheimer’s disease, a progressive and fatal brain disease
3 that causes loss of memory and verbal, sensory, and other cognitive
4 functions; and
5 WHEREAS, Sixty percent of patients with Alzheimer’s disease
6 will wander away from home and only 4 percent of those *patients*
7 will be able to find their way back ~~unassisted~~ *home without*
8 *assistance*; and
9 WHEREAS, Half of seniors and others with dementia who
10 wander away from home, on foot or in a car, sustain injury if *they*
11 *are* not found within 24 hours; and

1 WHEREAS, The senior population has been steadily growing
2 and the aging of the baby boomer generation will likely increase
3 the number of persons suffering from dementia, thereby increasing
4 the number of persons injured or killed while wandering; and

5 WHEREAS, A new type of missing persons program, ~~know~~
6 *known* as Silver Alert, has been developed and adopted by several
7 states and has resulted in the safe return of a majority of persons
8 with dementia reported missing; and

9 WHEREAS, Legislators from other states are discussing
10 proposals for Silver Alert programs for introduction in 2009; and

11 WHEREAS, A nationally coordinated program, similar to the
12 Amber Alert program for missing children, could promote best
13 practices, based on ideas and experiences of existing states' Silver
14 Alert programs, and spread those best practices to other states,
15 resulting in a national program incorporating the media and law
16 enforcement; now, therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
18 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature urges the President and
19 *the* Congress of the United States to act to establish a federally
20 controlled Alzheimer's Silver Alert program to locate missing
21 persons with dementia and establish a federal grant program to aid
22 states in establishing local Silver Alert programs; and be it further

23 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
24 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
25 States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority
26 Leader of the Senate, and each Senator and Representative from
27 California in the Congress of the United States.